



PATENT
Docket No. 24647-20039.20

DECLARATION FOR UTILITY PATENT APPLICATION

AS A BELOW-NAMED INVENTOR, I HEREBY DECLARE THAT:

My residence, post office address, and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

I believe I am the original, first and joint inventor of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

Instrument set for fitting an intervertebral
joint prosthesis

the specification of which is attached hereto unless the following box is checked:

☒ was filed on Dec. 10, 2003 as United States Application Serial No. 10/731,432

I HEREBY STATE THAT I HAVE REVIEWED AND UNDERSTAND THE CONTENTS OF THE ABOVE-IDENTIFIED SPECIFICATION, INCLUDING THE CLAIMS, AS AMENDED BY ANY AMENDMENT REFERRED TO ABOVE.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or § 365(b) of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate, or § 365(a) of any PCT International application which designated at least one country other than the United States listed below and have also identified below, by checking the box, any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate, or PCT International application having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

Application No.	Country	Date of Filing (day/month/year)	Priority Claimed?
02005629.7	Europe	12/03/2002	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

I hereby claim benefit under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below:

Application Serial No.	Filing Date

I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. § 120 of any United States application(s), or § 365(c) of any PCT International application designating the United States, listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States or PCT International application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. § 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT International filing date of this application.

Application Serial No.	Filing Date	Status
		<input type="checkbox"/> Patented <input type="checkbox"/> Pending <input type="checkbox"/> Abandoned

I hereby appoint the following attorneys and agents to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith:

Lisa A. Amii (Reg No. 48,199)	Randolph Ted Apple (Reg No. 36,429)
Mehran Arjomand (Reg No. 48,231)	Laurie A. Axford (Reg No. 35,053)
Sanjay S. Bagade (Reg No. 42,280)	Erwin J. Basinski (Reg No. 34,773)
Shantanu Basu (Reg No. 43,318)	Richard R. Batt (Reg No. 43,485)
Vincent J. Belusko (Reg No. 30,820)	Jonathan Bockman (Reg No. 45,640)
Kimberly A. Bolin (Reg No. 44,546)	Barry E. Bretschneider (Reg No. 28,055)
Tyler S. Brown (Reg No. 36,465)	Nicholas Buffinger (Reg No. 39,124)
A. Randall Camacho (Reg No. 46,595)	Mark R. Carter (Reg No. 39,131)
Robert K. Cerpa (Reg No. 39,933)	Peng Chen (Reg No. 43,543)
Alex Chartove (Reg No. 31,942)	Thomas Chuang (Reg No. 44,616)
Thomas E. Ciotti (Reg No. 21,013)	Cara M. Coburn (Reg No. 46,631)
Matthew M. D'Amore (Reg No. 42,457)	Raj S. Davé (Reg No. 42,465)
Peter Davis (Reg No. 36,119)	David Devernoe (Reg No. P-50,128)
Karen B. Dow (Reg No. 29,684)	Stephen C. Durant (Reg No. 31,506)
Carolyn A. Favorito (Reg No. 39,183)	David L. Fehrman (Reg No. 28,600)
Hector Gallegos (Reg No. 40,614)	Thomas George (Reg No. 45,740)
Deborah S. Gladstein (Reg No. 43,636)	Debra J. Glaister (Reg No. 33,888)
Kenneth R. Glick (Reg No. 28,612)	Bruce D. Grant (Reg No. 47,608)
Johney U. Han (Reg No. 45,565)	Douglas G. Hodder (Reg No. 41,840)
Alan S. Hodes (Reg No. 38,185)	Charles D. Holland (Reg No. 35,196)
Kelvan P. Howard (Reg No. P48,999)	Peter Hsieh (Reg No. 44,780)
Jill A. Jacobson (Reg No. 40,030)	Wayne Jaeschke, Jr. (Reg No. 38,503)
Madeline I. Johnston (Reg No. 36,174)	Parisa Jorjani (Reg No. 46,813)
Ararat Kapouytian (Reg No. 40,044)	Richard C. Kim (Reg No. 40,046)
Cameron A. King (Reg No. 41,897)	Lawrence B. Kong (Reg No. P49,043)
Kawai Lau (Reg No. 44,461)	Glenn Kubota (Reg No. 44,197)
Rimas T. Lukas (Reg No. 46,451)	Michael J. Mauriel (Reg No. 44,226)
Gladys H. Monroy (Reg No. 32,430)	Philip A. Morin (Reg No. P-45,926)
Kate H. Murashige (Reg No. 29,959)	Mabel Ng (Reg No. P48,922)
Martin M. Noonan (Reg No. 44,264)	Catherine M. Polizzi (Reg No. 40,130)
Phillip Reilly (Reg No. 41,415)	Robert E. Scheid (Reg. No. 42,126)
Debra A. Shetka (Reg No. 33,309)	Terri Shieh-Newton (Reg No. 47,081)
Kevin R. Spivak (Reg No. 43,148)	Stanley H. Thompson (Reg No. 45,160)
Thomas L. Treffert (Reg No. P48,279)	Brenda J. Wallach (Reg No. 45,193)
Michael R. Ward (Reg No. 38,651)	E. Thomas Wheelock (Reg No. 28,825)
Todd W. Wight (Reg No. 45,218)	Eric Witt (Reg No. 44,408)
Frank Wu (Reg No. 41,386)	David T. Yang (Reg No. 44,415)
Peter J. Yim (Reg No. 44,417)	George C. Yu (Reg No. 44,418)
Karen R. Zachow (Reg No. 46,332)	

and:

Please direct all communications to:

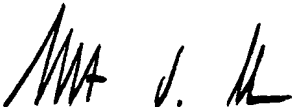
Barry E. Bretschneider
Morrison & Foerster LLP
1650 Tysons Boulevard, Suite 300
McLean, Virginia 22102

Please direct all telephone calls to Barry E. Bretschneider at (703) 760-7743.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under § 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.


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Date


Name: Helmut D. LINK
Residence: Wildstieg 14, Hamburg
Citizenship: Germany

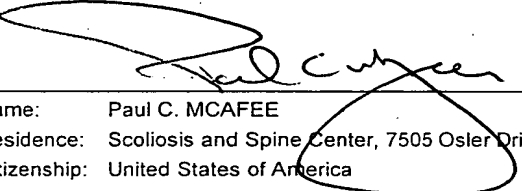
04 - 01 - 16

Date


Name: Arnold KELLER
Residence: An der Naherfurth 5, 23863 Kayhude
Citizenship: Germany

04 - 01 - 16

Date


Name: Paul C. MCAFEE
Residence: Scoliosis and Spine Center, 7505 Osler Drive, Suite 104, Baltimore, Maryland 21204
Citizenship: United States of America